



California State Fire Marshal **CODE INTERPRETATION**

Date Issued	8/11/06	Interpretation #	05-028
Topic	Occupancy Separation - Open Parking Garages		
Code Section(s)	California Building Code, Table 3-B, 2001 ed.		
Requested by	Adriana Lovinescu, AIA RHL Design Group Inc. 2401 East Katella Ave Anaheim CA 92806		

The questions relate to Table 3-B Required Separation in Buildings of Mixed Occupancy: S-4 Row reads: "Open Parking Garages are excluded except as provided in Section 311.2". Section 311.2 permits S-4 Mixed Occupancy and lists various uses and separation requirements. This example covers the following design; S-4 (Roof Deck Parking-50, 000 sf) above 1 story Automotive Dealership (B, S-1, S-3-Repair- 50,000 sf). The project is type II-N (Concrete deck supported by concrete columns).

1. Is the S-4 considered an occupancy? Yes.

2. Is the S-4 required to have an occupancy separation, or is it "Excluded" from having an occupancy separation requirement?

The S-4 is excluded from meeting an occupancy separation requirement. However, Section 311.2.2.2 #4 would require the floor-ceiling assembly separating the S-3 and S-4 to be protected as required for the S-3 Occupancy.

3. Is the S-4 to be considered a separate building in this case? No.

4. Would a 3-hour FR deck and supporting structure be required? No.

5. Would the roof deck drains be required to be protected as they penetrate the deck? No. Section 311.2.2.2 #4 clearly indicates that openings between the S-3 and S-4, except for exit openings, need not be protected.